

themselves beautiful. They trusted God and accepted the authority of their husbands ... 7 In the same way, you husbands must give honor to your wives. Treat your wife with understanding as you live together. She may be (physically) weaker than you are, but she is your equal partner in God's gift of new life. Treat her as you should so your prayers will not be hindered ...12 The eyes of the Lord watch over those who do right, and His ears are open to their prayers. But the Lord turns His face against those who do evil."



Reflect

For a wife, how does "trusting God," and accepting the authority of her husband fit together?



Does this give the husband license to mistreat and dominate his wife? Should he demand that his wife submit? Explain.



How can God's words to husbands prevent this? What will God do if a man does not love and honor his wife as He desires? (For example, if the husband demands that his wife submits to him?).



How does verse 12 apply to how God expects husbands and wives to treat one another? What are the rewards of loving and honoring one another and the consequences of not?



From what this passage says, if you feel far from God, what might be a reason?